



Atty Dkt No: PP19199.002

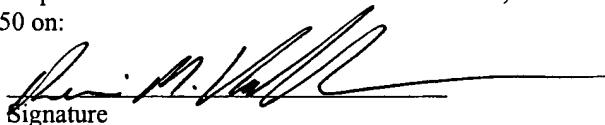
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PATENT

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Date

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. McGaw".

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:

ARCANGEL et al.	Confirmation No.: 7355
Serial No.: 10/658,782	Art Unit: 1648
Filing Date: September 8, 2003	Examiner: M. McGaw
Title: HCV ASSAY	

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.111**

Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed August 13, 2004, with a shortened statutory period of three months for response. Accordingly, this response is timely filed. Reconsideration of the application in view of the following amendments and remarks is respectfully requested.

Amendments to the claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper.